



CATAWBA COUNTY

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Public Health

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Catawba County Public Health And Community Providers Offering H1N1 Vaccine

Catawba County Public Health and their partners of over 40 local medical providers and pharmacies are offering the H1N1 vaccine to all target groups. Residents are encouraged to call their local medical provider and pharmacy for information related to vaccine availability.

Catawba County Public Health is currently accepting appointments for H1N1 nasal spray vaccine for children ages 2 through 24, anyone who lives with or cares for children less than 6 months of age as well as healthcare personnel age 49 and under. Preservative free injectable H1N1 vaccine is available only to children 6 to 35 months of age. Both H1N1 vaccines will be provided free of charge.

Since the beginning of October, over 16,400 doses of the H1N1 vaccine have been delivered and administered through local medical providers, pharmacies, hospitals and Public Health. The vaccine has been received in both forms; injectable and nasal spray.

“We are very grateful for all of the local providers and pharmacies who have worked with us and have committed to offer the H1N1 vaccine to their patients,” said Doug Urland, Health Director for Catawba County Public Health. “These community partnerships are assuring that H1N1 vaccine is distributed efficiently by providing greater access for the public.”

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) continues to strongly recommend vaccinating the following target populations:

- Pregnant women
- Household contacts and caregivers for children younger than 6 months of age
- Healthcare and emergency medical services personnel
- All people from 6 months through 24 years of age
- Persons aged 25 through 64 years who have health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications from influenza.

As additional shipments of the H1N1 vaccine are received, healthy adults that do not fall within the CDC’s target populations will be offered the vaccine.

For more information on the H1N1 vaccine or to make an appointment, please call Catawba County Public Health at 828-695-5800 or visit www.catawbacountync.gov/phealth.

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“Leading the Way to a Healthier Community”
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Note to editors: The information below addresses the different forms of the H1N1 vaccine. More information can be found on the North Carolina Division of Public Health website at:
<http://www.immunizenc.com/VISs.htm>.

Preservative-free injectable vaccine is available for children ages 6 months to 3 years of age. Children ages 9 and under will need a second booster dose of the vaccine 21 to 28 days after their first dose.

The H1N1 nasal spray vaccine is approved for healthy people ages 2 through 49 who are not pregnant. This form of the vaccine contains live virus that is weakened so it will not cause illness.

Children younger than 2 and adults 50 years and older, pregnant women, and anyone with a weakened immune system and long-term health problems such as heart disease, lung disease or asthma should not get the H1N1 nasal spray vaccine.

The H1N1 injectable vaccine is approved for pregnant women, and healthy people starting at 6 months of age. People who have a life threatening allergy to eggs, have ever had a life threatening allergic reaction to the seasonal flu shot, or have ever had Guillain-Barré syndrome should not take the H1N1 injectable vaccine.

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